

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as followings:

Systems and methods are provided for distributing processing in a cascaded manner. ~~and These systems and methods are capable of providing a distributed network of processors that can provide solutions to respective segments and/or subsegments of a problem posed by one of the processors. Also provided are systems and methods for compensating participants for participating in a distributed computing transaction, and for auctioning, bidding or shopping for rights to engage in such distributed processing tasks.~~ The system and method can be implemented using a software application ~~that can be~~ executed by each of a plurality of processors. ~~The plurality of processors are interconnected by one or more networks. The network connections can be achieved using any of the many well known mechanisms and protocols, including wireless communications and/or "wired" communications.~~ The system and method are "cascaded" in that at least some of the processors distribute a problem to be solved, ~~or parts thereof,~~ to other processors via at least one intermediate tier of processors. Solutions to segments and/or to subsegments of the ~~posed~~ problem posed by one of the processors can be solved ~~(e.g., calculated or otherwise suitably developed)~~ by processors in the same tier and/or in different tiers.